

SSIBlings

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Thomas W. Castonguay, Ph.D., Editor
Department of Human Nutrition and Food Systems
University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742

Letter from the President Stephen C. Woods, Ph.D.

I shall begin this letter by expressing the pride and importance I feel in having been elected President of SSIB; I hope that I shall be able to keep the Society moving in the directions initiated by Harry Kissileff. On that note, I know I speak for the entire Society in giving Harry yet another round of thanks for the incredible work he did in getting SSIB off the ground and in steering it through its first couple of years. Thanks to Harry's energy and organization, most of the tasks associated with my being President are already in motion. This is fortunate since becoming President is a mixed package. It turns out to be considerably more than an honorific title - there is sufficient work to consume many hours each week.

In part because the society is already quite complex and successful in terms of its activities, at its meeting in Toronto, the Board opted to create the position of SSIB Executive Officer, somewhat analogous to what exists for EPA, Neurosciences and the like. The intent is to identify an individual who can assist new officers, make transitions

smoother, and serve as a visible and relatively stable spokesperson for SSIB in certain of its dealings. Appropriately, the Board appointed Harry Kissileff as its first Executive Officer, and he has been a great help to me in that capacity.

Plans seem to be well underway for our Spring gathering in Boston in association with EPA. If anyone has any special questions or needs regarding that meeting, they should contact Robin Kanarek.

I was pleased that the Board opted to create several travel scholarships for graduate students and post-doctoral fellows to attend the ICPFFI in Paris this summer. A committee consisting of myself, Tony Sclafani, Gerry Smith and Ed Stricker will make the deliberations.

I have several thoughts and questions for which I would appreciate your input. For one, should we have different categories of membership? Possibilities might include Professional Members, Clinical Members, Technical members, or whatever. The question is obviously related to how large a scope SSIB wishes to have. I understand that there are individuals interested in joining SSIB who do not meet our